



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 61

February Session, 2008

Substitute Senate Bill No. 271

Senate, March 20, 2008

The Committee on General Law reported through SEN. COLAPIETRO of the 31st Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING ADVERTISING BY OCCUPATIONAL LICENSE HOLDERS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective January 1, 2009*) A person authorized to
- 2 offer services to the general public pursuant to chapter 393 of the
- 3 general statutes shall include such person's license number, if
- 4 applicable, in any advertisement published by or on behalf of such
- 5 person and made available to the general public for such services.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

| | | |
|-----------|------------------------|-------------|
| Section 1 | <i>January 1, 2009</i> | New section |
|-----------|------------------------|-------------|

GL *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note**State Impact:**

| Agency Affected | Fund-Effect | FY 09 \$ | FY 10 \$ |
|----------------------------|-------------|----------|----------|
| Consumer Protection, Dept. | GF - None | None | None |

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The monitoring of the provisions of this bill can be accomplished with the existing resources of the Department of Consumer Protection.

The Out Years

The ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future.

OLR Bill Analysis**sSB 271*****AN ACT CONCERNING ADVERTISING BY OCCUPATIONAL LICENSE HOLDERS.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill requires certain licensed contractors to include their license numbers in all advertisements they publish or cause to be published. The bill applies to contractors in the following trades: electrical; plumbing; heating, piping, and cooling; elevator installation and repair; solar electrical work; solar thermal work; fire protection sprinkler systems work; gas hearth work; irrigation work; medical gas and vacuum systems work; sheet metal work; and automotive and flat glass work. Because the law already requires these contractors to display their license numbers in all printed advertisements, the bill apparently has no legal effect (CGS § 20-334).

The law authorizes the consumer protection commissioner and the licensing boards overseeing these trades to impose penalties for violating the licensing law, including the requirement in current law and the one this bill establishes. These are: (1) license suspension, revocation, or probation and (2) a fine of (a) up to \$1,000 for a first violation, (b) up to \$1,500 for a second violation, and (c) up to \$3,000 for subsequent violations occurring less than three years after the previous violation.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2009

COMMITTEE ACTION

General Law Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 19 Nay 0 (03/04/2008)